हेतु उपाय किए जाते हैं कि तकनीकी प्राधिकरणों के साथ परामर्श करने के पश्चात् आवेदन इस समय-सीमा के भीतर निपटा दिए जाएं ।

Foreign exchange spent and earned by MUL

1227. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total amount of foreign exchange spent and earned by the Maruti Udyog Limited as on 31st March, 1992;

(b) whether it is a fact that this company has spent more foreign exchange than it has earned by export upto the year ending 31st March, 1992; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Till March 31, 1992, Maruti Udyog Ltd. had spent Rs. 1300.48 crores in foreign exchange for import of components and had earned Rs. 401.9 crores in foreign exchange.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The establishment of Maruti Udyog Ltd. with the object of bringing about modernisation of the automobile industry, producing vehicles which were fuel efficient and increasing the production of automobiles in the interest of economic growth has required more foreign exchange than was initially recoverable from its own exports. During 1991-92, however, Maruti Udyog Ltd. has earned more foreign exchange than what it spent for import of components.

Production of Salt from Sambhar lake in Rajasthan

1228. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of salt from Sambhar lake in Rajasthan has gone down ever-since it was handed over to the Central Government in 1961;

(b) what were the terms and conditions on which the Sambhar Salts Limited was handed over to the Central Government on lease basis;

(c) the present holding of the Centre and State of Rajasthan in the Rajasthan Salts Works presently taken over by the Hindustan Salts Limited;

(d) the reasons for the continuing downward slide both in production and profitability of Sambhar Salt Works and the accumulated losses;

(e) whether the Rajasthan Government has asked for the transfer of ownership of the Sambhar Salts; and

(f) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) The production of salt by Sambhar Salts Ltd. from Sambhar Lake has declined from an average of 2.18 lakh MTs per annum in the sixties to an average of 1.76 lakh MTs per annum at present mainly due to climatic changes in the lake area.

(b) Major instrument for transfer of Sambhar source to Government of India was V. T. Krishnamachari Award of 29th April, 1961 which *inter-alia* laid down following terms and conditions;

(i) Lease for 99 years. Government of Rajasthan would be paid Annual rent @ of Rs. 5.50 lakhs over the entire lease period.

(ii) Government of India would allot free shares in favour of Govt. of Rajasthan to the extent of 40% of paid up capital of Sambhar Salts Ltd. This would be in full compensation to Govt. of Rajasthan for royalty.

(iii) Government of Rajasthan would have two representatives on the Board of Sambhar Salts Ltd.

(iv) Government of Rajasthan would ensure free flow of water into Lake.

(c) Total paid up capital :

Rs. 100 lakhs, of which share-holding of

(a) Hindustan Salts Ltd., Rs. 60 lakhs,

(b) Government of Rajasthan : Rs. 40 lakhs.

(d) Climatic change in the Lake area rendering the Lake dry and business coupled with non-flow of water into the Lake from the rivers due to construction of Bunds/Dams have been main reasons for the downward slide in production and production and profitability of Sambhar Salts Ltd. Besides, floods during the year 1975 affected the production for the next four years.

The company has taken steps to increase the availability of brine including digging of bore wells etc., as a result of which the company has started making profits and the accumulated losses have come down from Rs. 147.60 lakhs as at the end of March, 1990 to Rs. 76.13 lakhs at the end of March, 1991.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The matter is under examination.

Assessment of Growth Centre Scheme

1229. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the Growth Centre Scheme announced in June, 1988;

(b) if so, its outcome;

(c) the estimated cost of each Centre and the expenditure incurred thereon since the inception of the scheme;

(d) the basis for allocation of growth centres to the various States particularly those which have large industrially backward and tribal areas;

(e) whether Government have recently cleared proposals for establishing 64 Growth Centres for promoting industrialisation in backward areas of the country; and

(f) the particulars of the Centres to be located in Rajasthan particularly in its tribal areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN) : (a) to (e) Under the Growth Centre Scheme, 70 Growth Centres would be developed during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Allocation of these Growth Centres to the various States/Union Territories was made on the basis of population, area and the extent of industrial backwardness. Locations of 64 Centres have been finalised and announced.

Each Growth Centre would be set up at an estimated cost of Rs. 25—30 crores to be funded jointly by the Union Government, State Governments and financial institutions. So far 22 project reports have been approved and central assistance of Rs. 41 crores has been released. In addition, a provisional release of Rs. 10.50 crores has been made for project reports received before 31-12-1991.

(f) Rajasthan has been allotted 5 Growth Centres and their locations are as under:—

Name of the growth centre	District
1. Abu Road	Sirohi
2. Bhilwara	Bhilwara
3. Bikaner	Bikaner
4 Dholpur	Dholpur
5 Jhalawar	Jhalawar

Collaboration by foreign companies

1230. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that after the liberalisation of our economy, the foreign companies are not coming to India in large numbers as expected;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the total number of companise which collaborated with Indian companies after liberalisation and in which field ?